

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An improved method of forming a specific complex between a probe containing probe nucleobases and a target containing target nucleobases, includes mixing the probe and the target under hybridizing conditions, wherein the probe and/or the target is conjugated to a blocking agent, which enhances the avidity and/or specificity of hybridization, whether by Watson-Crick motif or by homologous binding motif. The blocking agent contains at least one nucleobase and can be, e.g., a free nucleobase, a nucleoside or a nucleotide.

10